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Here, on Mt. Rose, Nevada, Dr. J. E. Church made the first western snow survey 50 years ago.

FEDERAL - STATE - PRIVATE COOPERATIVE

SNOW SURVEY and WATER SUPPLY FORECASTS for MONTANA & NORTHERN WYOMING

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT of AGRICULTURE···SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE,
and
MONTANA AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

In cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Geological Survey, National Park Service, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, State Engineers of Montana and Wyoming and other Federal, State and private organizations.

AS OF
JAN. 1, 1959

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE - SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

TO RECIPIENTS OF COOPERATIVE SNOW SURVEY AND WATER SUPPLY FORECAST REPORTS:

The climate of the cultivated and populated areas of the West is characterized by relatively dry summer months. Such precipitation as occurs falls mostly in the winter and early spring months when it is of little immediate benefit to growing crops. Fortunately, most of this precipitation falls as mountain snow which stays on the ground for months, melting later to sustain streamflow during the period of greatest demand during late spring and summer. Thus, nature provides in mountain snow an imposing water storage facility.

The amount of water stored in mountain snow varies from place to place as well as from year to year and accordingly, so does the runoff of the streams. The best seasonal management of variable western water supplies results from fore-knowledge of the runoff.

A snow survey consists of a series of about ten samples taken with specially designed snow sampling equipment along a permanently marked line, about 1000 feet in length, called a snow course. The use of snow sampling equipment provides snow depth and water equivalent values for each sampling point. The average of these values is reported as the snow survey measurement for a snow course.

Snow surveys are made monthly or semi-monthly beginning in January or February and continue through the snow season until April, May or June. Currently more than 1300 western snow courses are measured each year. These measurements furnish the key data for water supply forecasts.

By relating snow survey measurements taken over a period of years to spring-summer runoff during the same period, relationships have been developed which make it possible to forecast seasonal runoff several months in advance of occurrence. In order to make a forecast, once a forecast relationship has been developed, the maximum snow water content at previously selected key snow courses is usually entered in the forecast relationship. More accurate forecasts are often obtained when other factors such as soil moisture, base flow and spring precipitation are considered and included in the forecast relationships.

Listed below are the Federal-State-Private Cooperative Snow Survey and Water Supply Forecast reports available for the West which contain detailed information on snow survey measurements, streamflow forecasts, reservoir storage, soil moisture and other guide data to water management and conservation decisions.

PUBLISHED BY SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

REPORTS	ISSUED	COOPERATING WITH	LOCATION
RIVER BASINS			
COLORADO, RIO GRANDE AND ARKANSAS	MONTHLY (FEB.-MAY)	COLO. EXP. STATION COLO. STATE ENGINEER NEW MEXICO STATE ENGINEER	FT. COLLINS, COLO.
COLUMBIA *Includes Alaska*	MONTHLY (JAN.-MAY)	IDAHO STATE ENGINEER	BOISE, IDAHO
UPPER MISSOURI	MONTHLY (FEB.-MAY)	MONT. AGR. EXP. STATION	BOZEMAN, MONTANA
WEST-WIDE	(OCT. 1, APR. 1 AND MAY 1)	COOPERATORS	PORTLAND, OREGON
STATES			
ARIZONA	SEMI-MONTHLY (JAN. 15-APR. 1)	SALT R. VALLEY WATER USERS ASSOCIATION	PHOENIX, ARIZONA
NEVADA	MONTHLY (FEB.-APR.)	NEVADA STATE ENGINEER	RENO, NEVADA
OREGON	MONTHLY (JAN.-MAY)	ORE. AGR. EXP. STATION	PORTLAND, OREGON
UTAH	MONTHLY (JAN.-MAY)	UTAH STATE ENGINEER UTAH AGR. EXP. STATION	SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH
WASHINGTON	MONTHLY (FEB.-MAY)	WASH. STATE DEPT. OF CONSERVATION	SPOKANE, WASHINGTON
WYOMING	MONTHLY (FEB.-JUNE)	WYOMING STATE ENGINEER	CASPER, WYOMING

Copies of the various reports may be secured from: Head, Water Supply Forecasting Section
Soil Conservation Service
209 S.W. 5th Avenue, Portland 4, Oregon

PUBLISHED BY OTHER AGENCIES

OTHER SNOW SURVEY REPORTS			
BRITISH COLUMBIA	MONTHLY (FEB.-JUNE)	COMPTROLLER, WATER RIGHTS BR., DEPT. OF LANDS AND FORESTS, PARLIAMENT BLDGS.	VICTORIA, B.C.
CALIFORNIA	MONTHLY (FEB.-MAY)	CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES.	SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

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FEDERAL-STATE-PRIVATE COOPERATIVE

SNOW SURVEYS and WATER SUPPLY FORECASTS

for

MONTANA AND NORTHERN WYOMING

(Upper Missouri and Upper Columbia River Basins)

Report Prepared by:

A. R. Codd
Hydraulic Engineer
Soil Conservation Service

Soil Conservation Service
U. S. Department of Agriculture
and
Montana Agricultural Experiment Station
Bozeman, Montana

Report Issued by:

H. D. Hurd
State Conservationist
of Montana

O. W. Monson
Irrigation Engineer
Montana Agricultural
Experiment Station

R. E. Huffman
Director
Montana Agricultural
Experiment Station

WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK

FOR MONTANA
January 1, 1959

MISSOURI RIVER BASIN

The 1959 snow-pack over the Missouri River Basin is approximately 71 percent average for January first.

Comparing the few key snow survey courses measured this early in the season with January 1958, snow on the Jefferson Basin is 82 percent of last year and 73 percent of an average January.

The 1959 snow-pack over the Madison River Basin is 60 percent of last year and 57 percent of an average January.

COLUMBIA RIVER BASIN

The 1959 snow-pack on the Columbia River Basin in Montana is approximately 103 percent of January 1958 and 100 percent of the average for January.

The 1959 snow-pack on the Flathead River Basin is 113 percent of last year and 117 percent of an average January.

On the Clark Fork Basin the 1959 snow-pack is 100 percent of last year and 96 percent of the January average.

The Gibbons Pass snow course at the head of the Bitterroot River Basin shows 37 inches of snow with 9.5 inches of water content. The figures indicate that the snow-pack is 87 percent of last January and 85 percent of the January average.


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INDEX TO MONTANA & NORTHERN WYOMING SNOW COURSES

Drainage Basin and Course Name	Montana Number	Elev.	Location Sec. Lat.	Twp.	Range Long.	Record Began	Measuring Dates	Measured By
JEFFERSON RIVER		**MISSOURI RIVER DRAINAGE**						
(ROCK-BEAVERHEAD)								
Lakeview Ridge	11B3	7400	27	14S	2W	1948	3,4,5	10
Lakeview Canyon	11B4	6930	26	14S	2W	1948	3,4,5	10
Limekiln	12B2	6950	5	15S	9W	1948	3,4	1
White Pine Ridge	12E1	8850	18	14S	9W	1948	3,4	1
(HORSE PRAIRIE)								
Bloody Dick	13D10	7600	12	8S	16W	1948	3,4	1
Gold Stone	13D9	8100	11	8S	16W	1948	3,4	1
Lemhi Pass	13E1	7480	9	10S	15W	1948	3,4	1
Tarrell Creek	13D12	6650	14	9S	15W	1948	3,4	1
Trail Creek	13B2	7090	15	10S	15W	1948	3,4	1
Selway Junction	13D11	6800	27	8S	15W	1948	3,4	1
(BIG HOLE)								
Big Hole Pass	1303	7240	28	3S	18W	1948	3,4	1
Big Hole Pass-Be.	1304	6900	24	3S	18W	1948	3,4	1
East Boundary	13D5	6700	22	3S	17W	1948	3,4	1
Gibbons Pass	13D2	7100	4	2S	19W	1934	1,2,3,4,5	1,3
Jahnke Creek	13D8	7340	25	7S	16W	1948	3,4	1
Miner Forks	13D6	7300	24	6S	17W	1948	3,4	1
Miner Lake	13D7	6720	10	6S	16W	1945	3,4,5	1
(WISE RIVER)								
Anderson Mdw.	13D14	7000	18	3S	12W	1948	3,4	1
Elk Horn	13D15	8450	15	4S	12W	1935	3,4,5	3
Wise River	13D13	6300	15	2S	12W	1948	3,4	1
(RUBY RIVER)								
Flashlight	12D3	6950	22	8S	7W	1945	3,4,5	1
MADISON RIVER								
Hebgen	11E5	6550	22	11S	3E	1934	1,2,3,4,5	3
West Yellowstone	11E7	6700	34	13S	5E	1934	1,2,3,4,5	3
Norris Basin	10B2	7500	44°44'		110°-42'	1936	3,4	6
GALLATIN RIVER								
Devil'e Slide	10D4	8100	14	5S	6E	1935	2,3,4,5	2,1
Hood Meadow	10D3	6600	22	4S	6E	1935	2,3,4,5	2,1
New World	10D1	6700	24	3S	6E	1939	1,2,3,4,5	7
21-Mile	11E6	7150	1	11S	5E	1934	1,2,3,4,5	3
MISSOURI RIVER MAIN STEM								
Chessman Reservoir	12C5	6200	2	8N	5W	1936	I,2,3,4,5	3
Crystal Lake	9C1	6100	19	12N	18E	1941	3,4	1,2
Grasshopper	10C2	7000	19	9N	8E	1938	3,4	2
Kings Hill	10C1	7950	35	13N	7E	1934	3,4,5	3
Picnic Grounds	12C6	6500	10	5N	6W	1941	2,3,4	4
Pipestone Pass	12D1	7200	11	1N	7W	1938	2,3,4,5	1
Stemple Pass	12C1	6900	16	1JN	7W	1934	3,4,5	3
Ten Mile Creek L	12C2	6250	13	8N	6W	1935	1,2,3,4,5	3
Ten Mile Creek M	12C3	6800	13	8N	6W	1934	1,2,3,4,5	3
Ten Mile Creek U	12C4	8000	19	8N	5W	1935	1,2,3,4,5	3
(TETON RIVER)								
Freight Creek	12A1	6000	13	26N	10W	1948	3,4	1
Waldron Creek	12B2	5600	16	25N	9W	1948	3,4	1
West Fork	12B1	6000	6	25N	9W	1948	3,4	1
(SUN RIVER)								
Benchmark	12B8	5500	9	20N	10W	1948	3,4	1
Cabin Creek	12B6	5400	33	23N	10W	1949	3,4	1,2
S-Bull	12B9	5600	36	20N	10W	1948	3,4	1,2
Gates Park	12B5	5300	31	24N	10W	1949	3,4	1,2
Goat Mountain	12B7	7000	20	22N	10W	1934	3,4	3
Wrong Ridge	12B3	6800	17	25N	10W	1949	3,4	1,2
Wrong Creek	12B4	5700	32	25N	10W	1949	3,4	1,2
(MARIAS RIVER)								
Marias Pass	13A5M	5250	34	30N	14W	1934	1,2,3,4,5	3
(MILK RIVER)								
Rocky Boy	9A1	5200	15	28N	16E	1941	3,4	7
(MUSSELSHELL RIVER)								
Grasshopper	10C2	7000	19	9N	8E	1938	3,4	2

Drainage Basin and Course Name	Montana Number	Elev.	Location Sec. Lat.	Twp.	Range Long.	Record Began	Measuring Dates	Measured By
MISSOURI RIVER DRAINAGE (cont.)								
(UPPER YELLOWSTONE)								
Camp Senia	9D1	7890	2	8S	18E	1937	4	1
Canyon	10B3	7750	44°-44'		110°-30'	1938	1,2,3,4,5	6
Cooke City	10D7	7400	25	9S	14E	1937	1,2,3,4,5	6
Crevice Mt.	10D5	8400	22	9S	9E	1935	3,4	2
Independence	10D6	8000	22	7S	12E	1940	3,4	1
Lake Camp	10B4	7850	44°-34'		110°-24'	1936	1,2,3,4,5	6
Lupine Creek	10B1	7300	44°-54'		110°-37'	1938	1,2,3,4,5	6
Lodgepole	9E1	8200	32	56N	106W	1940	2,3,4,5	1,4
(SHIELDS RIVER)								
Porcupine	10C3	6500	10	4N	10E	1938	3,4	1
LOWER YELLOWSTONE								
(WIND RIVER) Wyoming								
Big Warm	9F12	8800	36	42N	109W	1955	2,3,4,5	1
Brooke Lake #3	10F8	9200	23	44N	110W	1939	2,3,4,5	1
Burroughs Creek	9F4	8800	15	43N	107W	1948	2,3,4,5	1
Dinwoodie	9F10	10000	21	39N	105W	1948	2,3,4,5	1
Dry Creek	9F9	9500	34	4N	6W	1948	2,3,4,5	1
DuNoir	9F6	8750	27	42N	108W	1940	2,3,4,5	1
East Fork	9F13	9200	23	44N	104W	1956	2,3,4,5	1
Geyser Creek	9F7	8500	12	41N	100W	1948	2,3,4,5	1
Little Warm	9F8	9500	24	41N	108W	1948	2,3,4,5	1
Sheridan H.S. #1	9F5	7500	3	42N	109W	1939	2,3,4,5	1
Sheridan R.S. #2	9F14	7500	3	42N	109W	1955	2,3,4,5	1
T-Cross Ranch	9F3	8000	1	43N	107W	1940	2,3,4,5	1
Togwotee Pass	10F9	9600	29	44N	110W	1936	2,3,4,5	11
(POPO AGIE RIVER) Wyoming								
Blue Ridge	8G2	9500	23	31N	101W	1939	2,3,4,5	1
Bruce'e Camp	8G5	6500	24	32N	101W	1955	2,3,4	1
Hobb'e Park	9G3	10000	22	2S	3W	1948	2,3,4,5	1
Moequito Park R.S.	9G4	9500	23	2S	3W	1940	2,3,4,5	1
Sawmill Glade	8G1	8500	3	31N	101W	1939	2,3,4,5	1
South Pass	8G3	9000	13	30N	101W	1939	2,3,4,5	1
St. Lawrence	9F11	9000	26	1N	1W	1940	2,3,4,5	1
Trout Creek	9G2	8400	5	2S	2W	1948	2,3,4,5	1
(OWL CREEK) Wyoming								
Beavere Mill	9F2	8900	6	43N	102W	1948	2,3,4,5	1
Owl Creek	8F1	8700	36	43N	101W	1948	2,3,4,5	1
(GREYBULL RIVER) Wyoming								
Timber Creek #1	9E2	8800	25-	47N	103W	1948	2,3,4,5	1
Timber Creek #2	9E3	8800	25	47N	103W	1955	2,3,4,5	1
Wood River #1	9F1	8000	28	46N	103W	1939	2,3,4,5	1
Wood River #2	9F15	8000	28	46N	103W	1956	2,3,4,5	1
(SHOSHONE RIVER) Wyoming								
East Entrance	10E6	7000	17	52N	109W	1948	1,2,3,4,5	6
Sylvan Pass	10E5	7100	12	52N	110W	1936	1,2,3,4,5	6
(NOWOOD CREEK) Wyoming								
Cold Springs Camp	7E25	8700	1	50N	88W	1956	2,3,4,5	1
Medicine Lodge Lks	7E24	9500	7	51N	87W	1956	2,3,4,5	1
Munkers Pase	7E8	9700	11	48N	85W	1950	2,3,4,5	1
North Powder	7E36	8300	20	47N	85W	1956	2,3,4,5	1
Onion Gulch	7E27	8100	31	48N	85W	1956	2,3,4,5	1
Tensleep Lake	7E26	9075	33	50N	86W	1956	2,3,4,5	1
Tensleep R.S.	7E7	8300	30	49N	86W	1935	2,3,4,5	1
Tyrell R.S.	7E35	8300	30	49N	86W	1956	2,3,4,5	1
(SHELL CREEK) Wyoming								
Bald Mountain	7E21	9600	33	56N	91W	1956	2,3,4,5	1
Beaver-Tongue Div.	7E20	9200	12	55N	91W	1956	2,3,4,5	1
Bone-Spring Div.	7E18	9200	32	55N	89W	1956	2,3,4,5	1
Granite Creek Camp	7E22	7800	15	53N	89W	1956	2,3,4,5	1
Granite Pase	7E17	8950	19	54N	88W	1956	2,3,4,5	1
Horse-Trail Div.	7E19	9200	29	55N	90W	1956	2,3,4,5	1
Ranger Creek	7E4	8800	32	53N	88W	1935	2,3,4,5	1
Shell Creek	7E23	9600	12	52N	88W	1956	2,3,4,5	1
(PORCUPINE CREEK) Wyoming								
Five Spgs. Falls	7E31	7500	19	56N	92W	1956	2,3,4,5	1
Medicine Wheel	7E30	9000	24	56N	92W	1956	2,3,4,5	1
(TONGUE RIVER) Wyoming								
Beaver Tongue Div.	7E20	9200	12	55N	91W	1956	2,3,4,5	1
Big Goose #1	7E2	7700	4	53N	86W	1935	2,3,4,5	1
Big Goose #2	7E32	7700	4	53N	86W	1955	2,3,4,5	1
Bone-Spring Div.	7E18	9200	32	55N	89W	1956	2,3,4,5	1
Burgese R.S. #1	7E1	7900	36	56N	89W	1950	2,3,4,5	1
Burgese R.S. #2	7E33	7900	36	56N	89W	1955	2,3,4,5	1
Oome Lake #1	7E3	8800	11	53N	87W	1950	2,3,4,5	1
Oome Lake #2	7E34	8800	11	53N	87W	1950	2,3,4,5	1
Qloom Creek	7E14	9300	32	55N	87W	1956	2,3,4,5	1
Granite Pass	7E17	8950	19	54N	88W	1956	2,3,4,5	1

Drainage Basin and Course Name	Montana Number	Elev.	Location Sec. Lat.	Twp.	Range Long.	Record Began	Measuring Dates	Measured By
MISSOURI RIVER DRAINAGE (cont.)								
(TONGUE RIVER cont.)								
Horse Trail Div.	7E19	9200	29	55N	90W	1956	2,3,4,5	1
Lake Geneva	7E16	9000	7	52N	86W	1956	2,3,4,5	1
North Tongue	7E15	8800	17	55N	89W	1956	2,3,4,5	1
Sibley Lake	7E11	8000	10	55N	88W	1956	2,3,4,5	1
Sucker Creek	7E12	9000	19	55N	87W	1956	2,3,4,5	1
Steamboat Point	7E10	7500	32	56N	87W	1956	2,3,4,5	1
Wood Rock O.S.	7E13	8500	3	54N	88W	1956	2,3,4,5	1
(POWDER RIVER) Wyoming								
Crazy Woman	6E2	8200	6	47N	84W	1956	2,3,4,5	1
Muddy Creek O.S.	6E1	7800	2	48N	84W	1956	2,3,4,5	1
Munkers Pase	7E8	9700	11	48N	85W	1950	2,3,4,5	1
North Powder #2	7E36	8300	20	47N	85W	1956	2,3,4,5	1
Onion Gulch	7E27	8100	31	48N	85W	1956	2,3,4,5	1
Soldier Park	7E5	8700	36	51N	85W	1950	2,3,4,5	1
Sour Dough	7E6	8500	17	49N	84W	1936	2,3,4,5	1
COLUMBIA RIVER BASIN								
KOOTENAI RIVER								
Baree Creek	15B11	5500	6	25N	30W	1956	4,5,5½	2
Baree Mountain	15B1	6000	1	25N	31W	1937	4,5,5½	2
Red Mountain	15A1	6000	4	36N	29W	1937	3,4,5,5½	1,2
Weasel Divide	14A7	5450	8	37N	24W	1955	4,5,5½	1,2
FLATHEAD RIVER								
Basin Creek	13B14A	5000	11	19N	12W	1951	2,3,4,5	2
Big Creek	13B3	6750	6&7	22N	18W	1941	3,4,5	5
Brush Creek	14A4	5000	13	30N	26W	1937	3,4,5	1,2
Cattle Queen	13A1	4700	7	35N	17W	1939	3,4,5	6
Geeert Mountain	13A2M	5600	24	31N	19W	1937	1,2,3,4,5	1,2
Hell Roaring Div.	14A3	5770	35	32N	22W	1942	3,4,5	1,2
Holbrook	13B13A	4530	18	21N	13W	1951	1,2,3,4,5	2
Kishenehn	14A6	3886	14	37N	22W	1954	4,5	6
Logan Creek	14A5	4300	34	30N	24W	1937	3,4,5	2
Marias Pase	13A5M	5250	34	30N	14W	1934	1,2,3,4,5	3
Mineral Creek	13A16	4000	29	35N	17W	1957	3,4,5	6
Quintonkon	13A13	3800	11	26N	17W	1951	2,3,4,5	1,2
Spotted Bear Mt.	13B2M	7000	23	25N	15W	1948	3,4,5	1,2
Strawberry Lake	13A10	6500	11	28N	19W	1948	3,4,5	2
Trinkus Lake	13E1	6500	9	25N	17W	1948	3,4,5	2
Trout Lake	13A12M	3600	21	28N	17W	1948	3,4,5	1,2
Twin Creeks	13B11	3580	14	26N	16W	1951	2,3,4,5	1,2
Upper Holland Lk.	13B5	7000	28	20N	16W	1948	3,4,5	2
CLARK FORK								
Baree Creek	15B11	5500	6	25N	30W	1956	4,5,5½	2
Baree Mountain	15B1	6000	1	25N	31W	1937	4,5,5½	2
Coyote Hill	13B10	4200	12	18N	16W	1952	1,2,3,4,5	2
El Dorado Mine	13C9	7800	23	8N	12W	1949	4	1
Fred Burr Pass	13C11	8000	12	6N	13W	1957	3,4,5	1
Freezeout Summit	15B10	6800	21	15N	27W	1937	4,5	2
Gold Creek Lk.	13C10	7200	14	8N	12W	1949	4	1
Hoodoo Creek	15C1	6200	9	14N	27W	1937	4,5	2
Intergaard	13C4	6450	6	5N	13W	1936	2,3,4	4
Lubrecht Forest #6	13C8	4400	11	14N	15W	1951	1,2,3,4,5	12
North Fork Jocko	13B7	6330	3	17N	17W	1941	3,4,5	5
Pipestone Pass	12D1	7200	10	1N	7W	1938	2,3,4,5	1
Red Lion	13C12	7000	27	6N	13W	1958	3,4,5	1
Slide Rock Mt.	13C2	7100	35	10N	16W	1937	4	1
Southern Cross	13C5	6500	8	5N	13W	1936	2,3,4	4
Stemple Pase	12C1	6900	16	13N	7W	1934	3,4,5	3
Storm Lake	13C7	7780	19	4N	13W	1939	2,3,4	1
Stuart Mill	13C6	6500	19	5N	13W	1936	2,3,4	4
Stuart Mountain	13C1	7400	6	14N	18W	1936	4	1,2
TV Mountain	14B1	6800	33	15N	19W	1956	1,2,3,4,5	1
BITTERROOT RIVER								
East Fork R.S.	13D1	5400	16	2N	17W	1937	4	1
Gibbons Pass	13D2	7100	4	2S	19W	1934	1,2,3,4,5	3,1
Lolo Pass	14C5	5230	16	38N	15E	1956	3,4,5,5½	2
Nez Perce Camp	14D2	5580	1&20	1S	23W	1937	3,4,5	1
Nez Perce Pass	14D1	6575	32	28N	17E	1937	1,2,3,4,4½,5,5½	1
Powell R.S.	14C6	4230	33	37N	14E	1956	3,4,5,5½	2
Skalkaho Summit	13C3	7259	30	6N	17W	1937	4	1
SASKATCHEWAN RIVER BASIN								
ST. MARY RIVER								
Iceberg Lake #3	13A3	5600	48°-50'		113°-43'	1922	5	
Josephine Upper	13A15	5000	48°-50'		113°-42'	1956	5	3,9
Josephine Lower #9	13A14	4900	48°-47'		113°-41'	1955	5	
Mount Allen #7	13A7	5700	48°-46'		113°-41'	1922	5	3,9
Piegan #6	13A6	5500	48°-46½'		113°-41½'	1922	5	3,9
Ptarmigan #8	13A8	5800	48°-50'		113°-44'	1937	5	3,9

a. Numerals 1,2,3,4 and 5 refer to January 1, February 1, March 1, April 1 and May 1.

b. Numerals refer to Agency that secures the snow survey as follows:

1. Soil Conservation Service
2. U. S. Forest Service
3. U. S. Geological Survey
4. Montana Power Company
5. U. S. Indian Service
6. National Park Service
7. Montana Experiment Station
8. City of Bozeman
9. Dominion Water & Power Bureau
10. U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service
11. U. S. Bureau of Reclamation
12. Montana State Forestry School

M - Soil Moisture
A - Aerial Marker

5,R-11,4M4 59M-46-3(3)

UPPER MISSOURI RIVER BASIN
SNOW SURVEY COURSES
IN
MONTANA & NORTHERN WYOMING

LEGEND

- ○ TOWNS AND CITIES
- ● 1304 SNOW SURVEY COURSE
- ○ 9G1 IDAHO & WYOMING NUMBERS
- ▲ STREAM GAGING STATIONS

1959

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE
BOZEMAN MONTANA

50 25 0 SCALE IN MILES 50 100

KOOTENAI
FLATHEAD
ST. MARY
MILK
MARIAS
MILK
TETON
SUN
UPPER
MISSOURI
CLARK FORK
FLATHEAD
BLACKFOOT
MUSSELSHELL
LOWER
YELLOWSTONE
BITTERROOT
BIG HOLE
JEFFERSON
BEAVERHEAD
RUBY
MADISON
GALLATIN
UPPER YELLOWSTONE
SHOSHONE
GREYBULL
BIG HORN
TONGUE
POWDER
NOWOOD
POPO AGIE
SHELL
IDAHO
MONTANA
WYOMING
SOUTH DAKOTA

MONTANA SNOW SURVEYS ABOUT JANUARY 1, 1959

MISSOURI DRAINAGE BASIN AND SNOW COURSE	No.	Elev.	SNOW COVER MEASUREMENTS 1959 Date of Survey	1959 Snow Depth (In.)	1959 Water Content (In.)	Past Record Water Content (In.) 1958	Past Record Water Content (In.) 1957	15-Year Average 1938-52	Total Years of Record
JEFFERSON RIVER									
(Rock-Beaverhead)									
#Camp Creek	12E3	6800	12/29	10	1.4	3.5	3.5	4.0*	21
#Kilgore	11E12	6200				4.1	3.8	4.6	21
(Big Hole)									
Gibbons Pass	13D2	7100	12/30	37	9.5	10.9	11.2	11.2**	9
Storm Lake #2	13C7	7780	12/31	23	5.6	5.6	6.0	7.4**	3
MADISON RIVER									
Hebgen	11E5	6550	1/3	20	3.4	5.0	6.6	5.6	24
Norris Basin	10E2	7500	1/2	19	3.7	3.7	4.9	4.7**	5
21-Mile	11E6	7150	1/4	25	5.1	6.1	9.3	7.7*	20
W. Yellowstone	11E7	6700	1/3	14	2.4	3.4	5.6	5.2*	21
#Big Springs	11E9	6500	1/1	22	4.3	9.2	9.5	7.4	23
#Island Park	11E10	3600	1/1	16	2.1	7.1	7.2	5.9*	23
#Valley View	11E8	6500	1/1	19	2.7	5.2	6.7	5.2*	22
GALLATIN RIVER									
21-Mile	11E6	7150	1/4	25	5.1	6.1	9.3	7.7*	20
MISSOURI RIVER MAIN STEM									
Chessman Res.	12C5	6200	1/2	12	2.0	1.4	0.1	2.1	23
Pipestone Pass	12D1	7200	1/2	9	1.4	2.2	-	3.3**	3
Tenmile, Lower	12C2	6250	1/4	18	3.5	2.7	2.2	2.8	23
Tenmile, Middle	12C3	6800	1/3	25	5.8	4.7	3.9	5.0	24
Tenmile, Upper	12C4	8000	1/3	33	7.5	5.6	5.2	5.6	24
(Marias River)									
Marias Pass	13A5	5250	12/31	31	9.2	8.0	8.4	7.8	24
UPPER YELLOWSTONE									
Canyon	10E3	7750	1/1	30	6.0	5.5	6.5	6.7**	12
Cooke City	10D7	7400	12/31	19	3.6	3.0	3.5	4.0**	12
Lake Camp	10E4	7850	1/2	20	3.4	3.5	3.9	4.6**	10
Lupine	10E1	7300	1/3	18	3.1	3.5	-	4.4**	6
#Aster Creek	10E8	7700	1/2	38	11.0	14.8	12.3	18.4**	7
#Thumb Divide	10E7	7900	1/2	32	8.3	-	8.3	11.5**	7

* Less than 15 years in 1938-52 period. Average for 15 years nearest the base period.
** Average for period of record.
Adjacent Basin.

MONTANA SNOW SURVEYS ABOUT JANUARY 1, 1959

COLUMBIA DRAINAGE BASIN AND SNOW COURSE	No.	Elev.	SNOW COVER MEASUREMENTS 1959 Date of Survey	1959 Snow Depth (In.)	1959 Water Content (In.)	Past Record Water Content (In.) 1958	1957	15-Year Average 1938-52	Total Years of Record
FLATHEAD RIVER									
Coyote Hill	13B10	4200	1/2	18	4.9	4.8	4.8	5.0**	7
Desert Mountain	13A2	5600	12/31	33	7.6	6.1	6.4	6.1**	9
Marias Pass	13A5	5250	12/31	31	9.2	8.0	8.4	7.8	24
Spotted Bear Mt.	13B2	7000	1/7	38	9.9	5.4	5.9	6.5**	3
Trout Lake	13A12	3600	1/5	33	6.8	5.7	4.9	7.5**	4
Twin Creeks	13B11	3580	1/6	32	6.2	4.1	3.5	4.1**	3
CLARK FORK									
Chessman Res.	12C5	6200	1/2	12	2.0	1.4	0.1	2.0	23
Coyote Hill	13B10	4200	1/2	18	4.9	4.8	4.8	5.0**	7
Fish Lake Airstrip	21B4	5000	1/4	55	15.7	15.9	17.6	16.9**	5
Lubrecht For. #6	13C8	5400	1/5	5	1.1	1.6	1.1	1.6**	8
Pipestone Pass	12D1	7200	1/2	9	1.4	2.2	-	3.3**	3
Storm Lake #2	13C7	7780	12/31	23	5.6	5.6	6.0	7.4**	3
Tenmile, Lower	12C2	6250	1/4	18	3.5	2.7	2.2	2.8	23
Tenmile, Middle	12C3	6800	1/3	25	5.8	4.7	3.9	5.0	24
Tenmile, Upper	12C4	8000	1/3	33	7.5	5.6	5.2	5.6	24
TV Mountain	14B1	6800	12/31	34	7.8	7.5	8.2	7.8**	2
#Lookout	15B2	5250	12/30	61	16.2	18.9	15.6	18.1**	9

* Less than 15 yrs. in 1938-52 period. Average for 15 yrs. nearest the baseperiod.
** Average for period of record.
Adjacent Basin.

STATUS OF RESERVOIR STORAGE
January, 1959

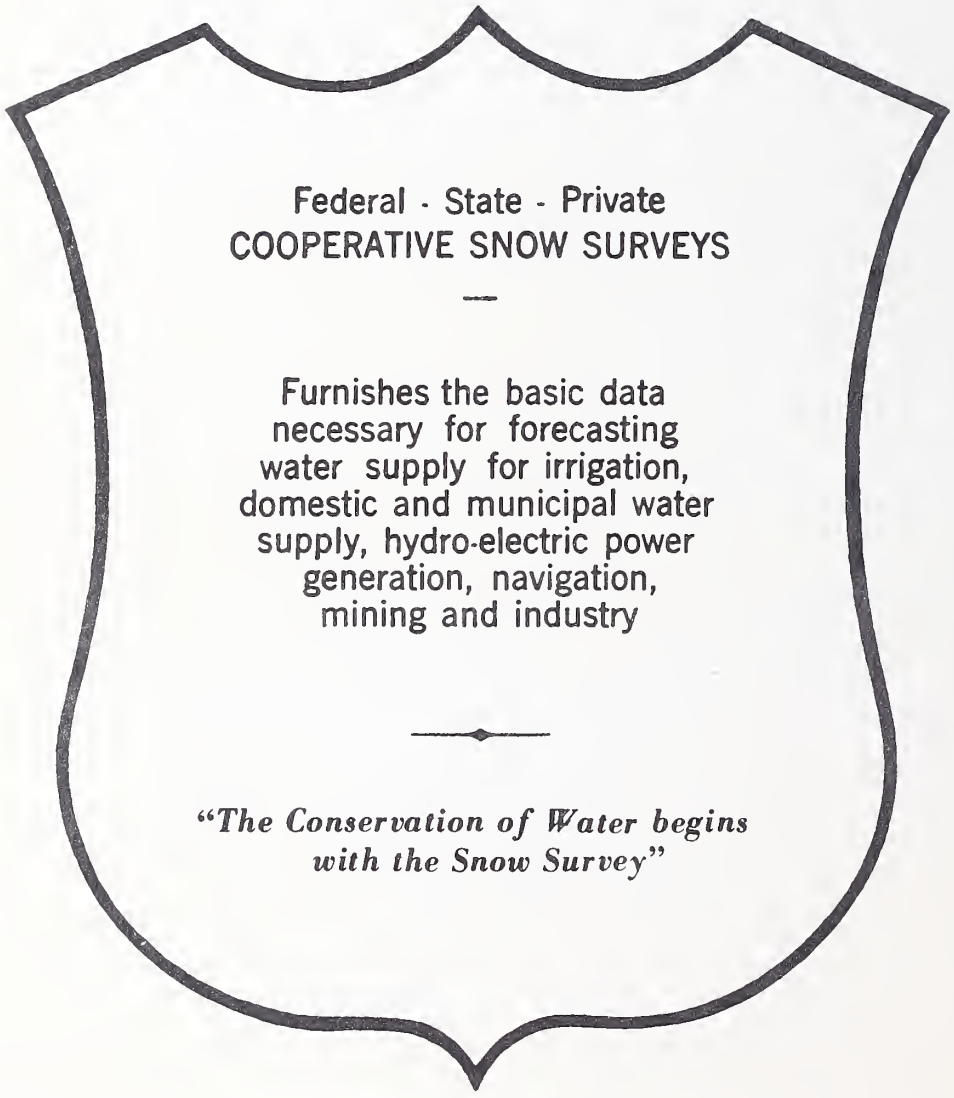
BASIN & STREAM	RESERVOIR	USABLE CAPACITY 1000 A.F.	USABLE STORAGE - 1000 ACRE FEET 1959	1958	1957	1938-52 AVG.	YRS.
MISSOURI RIVER BASIN - MONTANA							
Beaverhead	Lima	84.0	-	26.4	7.1	33.5*	18
Madison River	Hebgen Lake	345.0	168.7	157.4	156.5	241.6	23
Madison River	Ennis Lake	41.0	39.4	38.7	38.0	34.1	23
Hyalite Creek	Middle Creek	8.0	3.9	3.5	2.8	3.3**	7
Missouri River	Canyon Ferry	2043.0	1736.0	1651.0	1589.0	1412.0**	5
Missouri River	Hauser Lake & Lk. Helena	62.5	51.5	63.1	60.8	44.2*	19
Missouri River	Lake Helena	10.4	68.6	10.7	9.8	7.1**	13
Missouri River	Holter Lake	81.9	69.9	68.5	73.5	58.4	21
N.Fk. Sun River	Gibson	105.0	62.9	28.0	38.6	55.1	23
N.Fk. Sun River	Willow Creek	32.3	26.7	19.1	22.9	12.5	23
N.Fk. Sun River	Pishkun	32.0	19.9	12.7	17.0	15.6	23
Marias River	Tiber	1316.0	-	622.1	627.1	-	3
Birch Creek	Swift	30.0	-	-	21.2	18.2	23
Dupuyer & Birch	Lake Francis	112.0	-	-	90.0	72.5	23
Judith River	Ackley Lake	5.8	-	4.6	3.4	4.2*	20
Missouri River	Ft. Peck 3/	19410.0	8970.0	7670.0	6014.0	11120.0*	18
Milk River	Fresno	127.2	29.9	57.7	78.0	55.8*	18
Milk River	Nelson	66.8	44.0	51.4	53.0	29.6	23
W. Rosebud Cr.	Mystic Lake	20.8	14.0	9.8	7.9	11.0	23
Tongue River	Tongue River	73.9	15.6	9.0	8.6	8.2*	18
Swiftcurrent Cr.	Sherburne Lk.	66.1	28.6	-	16.3	17.3	22
MISSOURI RIVER BASIN - WYOMING							
Shoshone River	Buffalo Bill	440.0	24.8	189.4	143.9	270.8	24
Wind River	Boysen	408.6AC	155.8	322.4	240.6	2850.0**	7
Wind River	Pilot Butte	31.6	6.1	14.4	9.2	12.9	23
Bull Creek	Bull Lake	152.0	65.7	75.1	76.0	63.9*	19
Belle Fourche	Key Hole	190.0AC	0.9	1.2	12.5	9.8**	6

* Less than 15 years in 1938-52 period. Average for 15 years nearest the base period.
** Average for period of record.
3/ Gross contents: usable capacity less 617.0 A.F; minimum power pool 4,500.0 A.F.
AC Active storage - USBR Billings.

STATUS OF RESERVOIR STORAGE
January, 1959

BASIN & STREAM	RESERVOIR	USABLE CAPACITY 1000 A.F.	USABLE STORAGE - 1000 ACRE FEET 1959	1958	1957	1938-52 AVG.	YRS.
MISSOURI RIVER BASIN - NORTH DAKOTA							
Heart River	Heart Butte	54.8AC	44.3	56.3	44.0	52.3**	8
Heart River	Dickinson	4.3AC	3.7	4.3	3.2	3.8**	7
Missouri River	Garrison Lk.	13805.0AC	2860.2	4500.0	602.0	-	4
James River	Jamestown	20000.0AC	12.5	8.8	4.8	-	2
MISSOURI RIVER BASIN - SOUTH DAKOTA							
Belle Fourche	Belle Fourche	185.0AC	24.5	59.6	28.4	-	3
Cheyenne River	Angostura	160.0AC	48.5	56.7	25.4	-	3
Cheyenne River	Deerfield	15.1AC	8.4	11.0	8.6	11.2**	5
Grand River	Shadehill	84.0AC	72.1	79.4	134.1	134.0**	5
Missouri River	Ft. Randall	4900.0AC	2091.0	1202.0	667.0	-	4
Missouri River	Gavins Point	385.0AC	287.0	280.4	440.4	-	2
Missouri River	Oahe		240.0	-	-	-	-
Cheyenne River	Pactola	14.8AC	18.2	13.4	1.4	-	2
COLUMBIA RIVER BASIN - MONTANA							
Flint Creek	Georgetown Lk.	31.0	29.2	21.5	21.1	23.5*	19
S.Fk. Flathead	Hungry Horse	3500.0	3255.0	2061.0	1983.0	2420.0**	5
Flathead River	Flathead Lake	1791.0	1478.0	1013.0	967.0	895.0	15
Flathead River 6/	Camas Res.	42.8	23.2	25.4	29.2	19.6*	18
Flathead River 7/	Mission Valley	98.6	25.7	18.1	27.9	32.4*	18

* Less than 15 years in 1938-52 period. Average for 15 years nearest the base period.
** Average for period of record.
6/ Camas Reservoirs are shown as a sum of (4) small reservoirs on the west side of Flathead Lake located on Dry Creek and Little Bitterroot River.
7/ Mission Valley Reservoirs are shown as a sum of (8) small reservoirs located south and east of Flathead Lake. Both Camas and Mission Valley reservoirs are operated by the Indian Irrigation Service.
AC Active storage - USBR Billings.


Federal - State - Private
COOPERATIVE SNOW SURVEYS
Furnishes the basic data
necessary for forecasting
water supply for irrigation,
domestic and municipal water
supply, hydro-electric power
generation, navigation,
mining and industry
"The Conservation of Water begins
with the Snow Survey"